

**Amendments to the Specification:**

On page 1 of the specification after the title please add the following paragraph:

**Cross-reference to the Related Applications**

This application is a national phase of PCT application No. PCT/JP2004/015839 filed October 26, 2004, the entire contents of which incorporated by reference. This application also claims benefit of priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-368013 filed October 28, 2003, Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-391236 filed November 20, 2003 and Japanese Application No. 2004-018872 filed January 27, 2004, the entire contents of all are incorporated by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, section 0013, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A browser downloaded on each terminal is provided with both storing function and reading function for a draft of design, wherein the current status can be uploaded and stored into a second database (draft of design) in the database server 81 by operating a button or a key for storage. Further, as described above, the plan status maintaining unit in the collaboration server ~~82~~ 83 maintains the current status of design at that time. In order to re-start compiling of design, after making an entry on a screen for entry of design, the draft of design which has been stored previously can be displayed on the plan rendering unit using the plan reading function.

Please replace the paragraph beginning an page 6, section 0014, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, there may be usage of interactive transaction type, in which each client can download and use application software (chat function, voice dialogue function, etc) for the communication supporting unit registered in the collaboration server ~~82~~ 83.

Please replace the paragraph beginning an page 17, section 0053, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, this parts marketing system is characterized in that at least two out of the database unit 5, the input units 1 and 8, the simulation unit 4 and the output unit 2 are provided in the same machine. For example, the input units 1 and the output unit 2 may constitute the same machine, i.e., the workstation unit ~~1~~ 3, otherwise the input unit 1 and the output unit 2 are separated from each other in different workstation units ~~1 and 8~~. The simulation unit 4 and the database unit 5 may constitute the same machine. Thus at least two out of the database unit 5, the input unit 1, the simulation unit 4 and the output unit 2 are provided in the same machine, thereby curtailing cost of the total system. Ultimately, manufacture cost for assembling in the customer's site can be reduced.

Please replace the paragraph beginning an page 24, section 0079, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, this parts marketing system is characterized in that at least two out of the database unit 5, the input units 1 and 8, the simulation unit 4 and the output unit 2 are provided in the same machine. For example, the input units 1 and the output unit 2 may constitute the same machine, i.e., the workstation unit ~~1~~ 3, otherwise the input unit 1 and the output unit 2 are separated from each other in different workstation units ~~1 and 8~~. The simulation unit 4 and the database unit 5

may constitute the same machine. Thus at least two out of the database unit 5, the input unit 1, the simulation unit 4 and the output unit 2 are provided in the same machine, thereby curtailing cost of the total system. Ultimately, manufacture cost for assembling in the customer's site can be reduced.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, section 0094, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Fig. 5A, an optical fiber protector 12 is fixed to a ferrule 11 having a through-hole 11a, and an optical fiber 13 is inserted and fixed into an opening of the optical fiber protector 12, thereby forming a plug 20. Axial misalignment means displacement from the center of an outer surface 11c in an end face 11b of the ferrule. Fig. 5B is an enlarged view from the end face direction of the ferrule 11.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 29, section 0098, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 6A shows a state of the ferrule 11 in contact with another ferrule 11', in which end faces 11b and 11b' come in contact with each other by a split sleeve 5 15.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 30, section 0103, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 7A is a cross-sectional view showing a state of the ferrules 11 and 11' being in contact with each other on the end faces 11b and 11b' inside the split sleeve 5 15. Fig. 7B is a three-dimensional diagram representing the orientation error in polar coordinates.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 40, section 0138, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, this parts marketing system is characterized in that at least two out of the database unit 5, the input units 1 and 8, the simulation unit 4 and the output unit 2 are provided in the same machine. For example, the input units 1 and the output unit 2 may constitute the same machine, i.e., the workstation unit ~~4~~ 3, otherwise the input unit 1 and the output unit 2 are separated from each other in different workstation units ~~1 and 8~~. The simulation unit 4 and the database unit 5 may constitute the same machine. Thus at least two out of the database unit 5, the input unit 1, the simulation unit 4 and the output unit 2 are provided in the same machine, thereby curtailing cost of the total system. Ultimately, manufacture cost for assembling in the customer's site can be reduced.